(b) In recent past, no representation has been received in this regard.

(c) Docs not arise.

दिल्ली-अहमदाबाद राजधानी एक्सप्रेस

460. **श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी**: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) दिल्ली-जयपुर-अहमदाबाद राजधानी एक्सप्रेस को प्रारम्भ न किए जाने के क्या कारण हैं;

(ख) रेल की पटरी में किन-किन स्थलों पर खराबी की पहचान की गयी है और उनकी मरम्मत करने में कितना समय लगेगा; और

(ग) राजधानी एक्सप्रेस के डिब्बे कब तक तैयार हो जायेंगे?

रेल मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान): (क) से (ग) बम विस्फोट/दुर्घटना के कारण राजधानी सेवाओं के अस्त व्यस्त होने के कारण और बाद में नई दिल्ली में गैर अन्तर्पाशन के पारिणामस्वरुप दिल्ली क्षेत्र में परिचालनिक कठिनाइयों के कारण राजधानी नहीं चलाई जा सकी। नई दिल्ली में गैर अन्तर्पाशन कार्य पूरा होने के बाद गाड़ी चलाई जाएगी।

Comparative rate of Indian Railway accidents

461. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Railways are accident prone in view of the situation arising out of age-old tracks, rolling stocks, signalling systems, unmanned railway crossing, sabotaging etc.;

(b) the comparative rate of accident in Indian Railways in world scene; and

(c) the punishments awarded to officers responsible for accidents in India vis-a-vis other countries?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Train accidents do take place on account of these factors but it docs not imply that Indian Railways are accident prone. In fact, the incidence of consequential train accidents per million train kilometers has come down from 1.5 during 1984-85 to 0.57 during 1996-97. During 1996-97, 194 persons were awarded major penalties including dismissal/removal from service/ compulsory retirement and 576 persons were awarded minor penalties.

Comparative figures of accidents and punishments awarded on other railway systems of the world are not mantained.

Thane Railway Station

462. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware that the first Railway of India had run between Mumbai and Thane; and

(b) if so, why Thane is ignored by Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Thane station is not being ignored, as additional facilities as per the passenger traffic requirements, have been developed from time to time. At present, 6 passenger platforms with covered shed connecting Foot-Over-Bridges, 30 Booking windows (including 8 for reservation) and various other passenger amenities, have been provided.

Further, two works for remodelling of the station and improvement and renovation to passenger amenities, have also been approved to provide additional passenger amenities at Thane.

Losses suffered by Railways during Haryana agitation by BKU

463. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what arc the details of loss of Railways' property suffered during the recent movement of BKU Activists in and around the State of Haryana;